

September 30, 2019

Office of Representative Tom Suozzi  
478A Park Avenue  
Huntington, NY 11743

Dear Representative Suozzi,

Today marks 43 years since Congress passed the Hyde Amendment, blocking low-income women from equal access to abortion. We elected you because you pledged to fight for Democratic priorities—yet now that you are in office, [you refuse to support a ban on the Hyde Amendment](#). We are deeply disappointed by your persistent refusal to stand with the women in your district. **We call on you to reverse your position and support a ban on Hyde immediately.**

Your anti-choice record goes beyond supporting Hyde. [You regularly stigmatize women](#) by demanding we "reduce abortion"—using conservative language that [helps fuel Republican anti-choice legislation](#). And [you funded multiple abstinence-only programs](#) as county executive.

The Hyde Amendment bars the use of federal funds to pay for abortion. That means that women on Medicaid must pay for the routine, safe, and legal procedure out of pocket—often costing low-income women [thousands of dollars](#) in medical expenses. Hyde's passage transformed the right to choose—affirmed in Roe a mere three years prior—from a universal right to a class-determined privilege.

Trump has taken the precedent set by Hyde and run with it. From [appointing anti-choice judges to federal courts](#) to passing and enforcing the [Title X Gag Rule](#), Trump's administration has a clear anti-women agenda. This is no time for silence. Democrats need to make clear that we will fight for reproductive justice. Democrats like you, who remain silently on the sidelines as these attacks compound, are actively enabling a GOP strategy that hurts millions of Americans.

The tide on Hyde is turning. In 2019, more and more Congressional Democrats are calling for the [repeal of Hyde](#). Time and again, we have begged you to reverse course and join your colleagues in demanding for Hyde's repeal—and you've refused. We are ashamed that our own representative refuses to stand up for the accessible right to choose. A future without Hyde will mean that every person in America can control their own reproductive healthcare. Enough is enough—reverse your position on Hyde now.

Signed,

Your constituents:

Melissa Alessandro  
Cassidy Baco  
Alana Benjamin  
Jenne Biunno  
Elizabeth Blake  
Carol Boboris  
Jacqueline Braunstein  
Nicola Burg  
Abby Burton  
Jessica Chapel  
Heather Clark  
Samantha Craig  
Melanie D'Arrigo  
Kayleigh D'Auria  
Amy Barker Deptuch  
Judy Esterquest  
Beth Ezrin  
Francine Furtado  
Judi Gardner  
Maureen Guy  
Alyson Heyman  
Liloma-hafiz  
Jessica Harnden  
Caeli Higgins  
Mimi Hu  
Amanda Khalil  
Sherifa Kurjakovic

Jennifer Kosky  
Susan Kristein  
Amanda Perez Leder  
Meg Lotterman  
Samantha Lotwin  
Ellie Muscemi  
Susan Naftol  
Dawn Olivia  
Stacey Palmese-Guglielmo  
Emily Raphael  
Jordanna Rothschild  
Donna Rivera  
Alethea Shapiro  
Alexandra Sherman  
Erika Sherman  
Elizabeth Simons  
Jill Silverstein  
Danielle Tane  
Jennifer Valenti  
Laura Valenti  
Lauren Valenti  
Nicole Valenti  
Victoria Valenti  
Kerrilyn Waters  
Elizabeth Wolf